



V CORPS SOLDIERS INVENT ROUTER FOR SIGNAL CORPS

“THE BOX” HAS REVOLUTIONIZED COMMUNICATION FOR CORPS MAIN

Story by Spc. Chris Connelly
138th MPAD, New York National Guard

In today's age of communications many people are trying to find the most expeditious way to send and

receive information.

Soldiers of the 440th Signal Battalion, 1st Armored Division, V Corps have found a way.

Sgt. Eric D. Walters, 1st Lt. Craig Bender, Chief Warrant Officer 2 David B. Rogers and Spc. David G. Vosburg have developed a communications hub to save time and space. The router, called a mobile patch and test facility, “the box” is helping the Victory Corps during this year's Warfighter exercise.

“The box cuts down on time and waste,” Walters said. With the old

router, multiple wires were needed in order to sustain communications. The box requires only one wire in order to establish communications between the command center and its cells.

When communication difficulties arose with the old router, a technician would have to trace all the field wires to find the problem, but with the box, only one line needs to be checked.

“It also makes access to communication faster by being able to move from one position to another,” Walters

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WE ARE THE EYES AND EARS OF V CORPS

Story by Cadet Melanie Meyer
135th MPAD, Iowa National Guard

Often referred to as the eyes and ears of the battlefield and called the “intelligence center of gravity” by their commanding general, the 205th Military Intelligence Brigade from Wiesbaden, Germany is in Grafenwoehr for Urgent Victory 2002.

According to Lt. Col. David Ward, deputy brigade commander, “This Warfighter trains us, so we can execute our wartime mission.”

The 205th MI consists of three battalions, each with a different mission. The 1st MI Battalion flies the RC-12 Guardrail aircraft and the Hunter Unmanned Aerial Vehicle. The 165th Counter Intelligence Battalion consists of

interrogators and long-range surveillance soldiers, while the 302nd MI Battalion ties all the battalions together and analyzes information. Then the 302nd produces a finished intelligence product for the corps commander's decision-making process.

“This Warfighter training is essential to the organization and control of the different teams,” said Cpl. Darrell Pennington, counterintelligence operations NCOIC.

“Not only are we learning how to coordinate massive amounts of units, but we can also see where mistakes need to be fixed,” said Staff Sgt. Kevin Coates, a sergeant from the 165th's LRS company.

“Short of going to war,” says Ward, “The Warfighter is the best training experience offered.”

Training experiences such as the

Warfighter exercise help provide the opportunity to shape the eyes and ears of the 205th MI..



Photo by Cadet Melanie Meyer
135th MPAD, Iowa National Guard

Lt. Col. David Ward, deputy brigade commander of the 205th MI Brigade, studies data at the 205th MI main command post.

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said.

Currently there are three mobile patch and test facilities being used within V Corps, and eight more are being built as requested by Col. William T. Lasher, commander of the 22nd Signal Brigade.

"I'm really excited and relieved that it worked and it was noticed," said Walters. "We plan on submitting the router to the Army Ideas For Excellence Program."

The excellence program is an incentive program that encourages soldiers and civilians within the Department of the Army to submit ideas that, if adopted will result in increased efficiencies and reduced costs.

Cash awards for ideas can be up to \$25,000. If you have an idea and the funds to make it happen "Just go for it," said Walters.

Warfighter of the Day



Photo by Spc. Amy Abbott
V Corps Public Affairs Office

Spc. Geraldo Garcia, cannon crew member from V Corps Artillery, Schwetzingen, Germany, fires a M249 SAW at a GTA range during the warfighting exercise Urgent Victory 2002.

THE SOLDIERS OF URGENT VICTORY



Photo by Sgt. Tim Mills
135th MPAD, Iowa National Guard

Spc. Ryan DeMendonca, Black Hawk mechanic with the 12th Aviation Brigade, performs a pre-flight inspection on his "bird."

Today's weather forecast for Grafenwoehr

Cloudy with chance of
snow, sunshine, hail or rain.

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